

# PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(11)Publication number : 2002-029222

(43)Date of publication of application : 29.01.2002

(51)Int.Cl. B60C 11/11  
B60C 11/12

(21)Application number : 2000-214216 (71)Applicant : BRIDGESTONE CORP

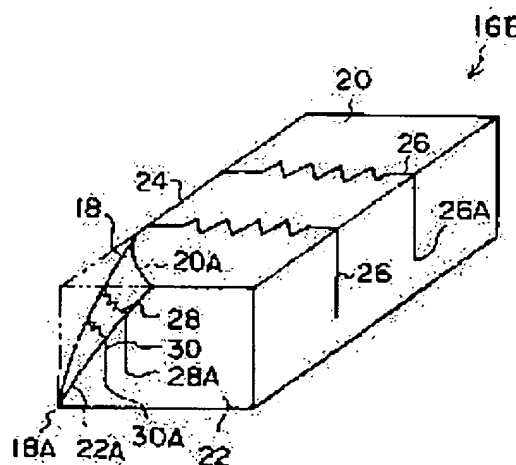
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## (54) PNEUMATIC TIRE

### (57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To restrain lowering of performance in running on the ice and snow road surface and improve drainage performance.

SOLUTION: This tire is provided with a tread having plural blocks 16B in which a corner part 18 is chamfered to be gradually lowered as the surface goes toward an apex 18A. In the tire, sipes 28, 30 are formed in the chamfered corner part 18.



## LEGAL STATUS

[Date of request for examination]

[Date of sending the examiner's decision of rejection]

[Kind of final disposal of application other than the examiner's decision of rejection or application converted registration]

[Date of final disposal for application]

(19)日本国特許庁 (J P)

(12) 公 開 特 許 公 報 (A)

(11)特許出願公開番号

特開2002-29222

(P2002-29222A)

(43)公開日 平成14年1月29日(2002.1.29)

(51)Int. Cl.

識別記号

F 1

テマコード(参考)

B 6 0 C 11/11  
11/12

B 6 0 C 11/11  
11/12

F  
C  
A

審査請求 未請求 請求項の数4 OL (全 5 頁)

(21)出願番号 特願2000-214216(P2000-214216)

(22)出願日 平成12年7月14日(2000.7.14)

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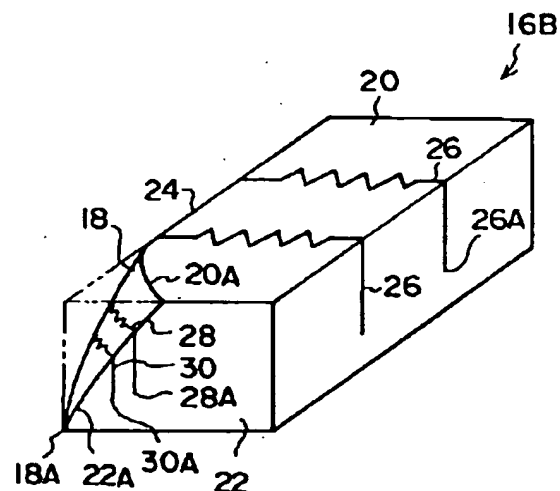
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(54)【発明の名称】 空気入りタイヤ

(57)【要約】

【課題】 氷雪路面走行時の性能の低下を抑制できると共に排水性能を向上する。

【解決手段】 角部18が、その表面が頂点18Aに向けて徐々に低くなるように面取りされた複数のブロック16Bを有するトレッドを備え、面取りされた角部18にサイプ28、30が形成された空気入りタイヤ。



## 【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 角部の少なくとも一部が、その表面が角部の頂点に向けて徐々に低くなるように面取りされた複数のブロックを有するトレッドを備え、面取りされた角部にサイアが形成された空気入りタイヤ。

【請求項2】 前記面取りされた角部に複数のサイアが形成された請求項1記載の空気入りタイヤ。

【請求項3】 前記複数のブロックの前記面取りされた角部以外の部分にサイアが形成され、前記面取りされた角部以外の部分に形成されたサイアの下端の高さは前記角部に形成されたサイアの下端の高さと同じである請求項1又は2に記載の空気入りタイヤ。

【請求項4】 前記トレッドはタイヤ周方向に対して傾斜する傾斜溝を有し、前記傾斜溝とタイヤ周方向との角度は45°を越える請求項1から3のいずれか1項に記載の空気入りタイヤ。

## 【発明の詳細な説明】

## 【0001】

【発明の属する技術分野】本発明は空気入りタイヤに係り、さらに詳細には排水性能を向上すると共に良好な氷雪路面走行時の性能を長期にわたり維持できる空気入りタイヤに関する。

## 【0002】

【従来の技術及び発明が解決しようとする課題】排水性能を向上するために、図9に示されるように、角部が面取りされたブロックを有するトレッドを備えた空気入りタイヤが知られている。このような空気入りタイヤでは、摩耗によるブロック間の溝の容積の減少率は、角部が面取りされていないブロックを有する空気入りタイヤの場合のそれと比べて非常に大きい。

【0003】ところで、溝の容積はタイヤの雪上性能に大きく影響しており、溝の容積が大きい程雪上性能は良好となる。図9に示すブロックを有するタイヤの初期の雪上性能は、角部が面取りされていないタイヤのそれに比べ良好であるが、前述のとおり摩耗による溝の容積の減少率が大きいので、摩耗による雪上性能の低下率が著しく大きい。

【0004】氷雪路面用タイヤには一定の性能をある程度の期間維持することが要求されるため、初期雪上性能がいかに良好でも図9に示すようなブロックを有する空気入りタイヤを氷雪路面用タイヤとして使用することはできない。

【0005】本発明は上記事実を考慮してなされたものであり、雪上性能の低下、さらに氷上性能の低下を抑制できると共に排水性能を向上することができる空気入りタイヤを提供することを目的とする。

## 【0006】

【課題を解決するための手段】本発明は、角部の少なくとも一部が、その表面が角部の頂点に向けて徐々に低くなるように面取りされた複数のブロックを有するトレ

ドを備え、面取りされた角部にサイアが形成された空気入りタイヤを提供する。

【0007】本発明の空気入りタイヤでは、面取りされた角部の一部が摩耗により路面に接触するようになったときには、面取りされた角部に形成されたサイアが路面と接触するようになる。サイアが接地により開くと、サイアの中に雪が入り込み、雪をグリップすることができるため、溝の容積減少による雪上性能の低下を相殺できる。

【0008】また、面取りされた角部の一部が摩耗により路面に接触するようになったときには、摩耗により溝の容積が減るだけでなく、路面（タイヤの路面に接触する面）の面積が増加する。路面の面積はタイヤの氷上性能に関係し、路面の面積が大きい程氷上性能は良好となる。従って、トレッドゴムの劣化による氷上性能の低下を路面の面積の増加により抑制することができる。さらに、摩耗により路面と接触するようになったサイアは凍った路面上の水膜を切ってブロックを路面と接触させる。これにより摩擦力、ひいては路面をグリップする力が得られ、氷上性能の低下が防止される。

【0009】面取りされた角部に形成されるサイアの数はいくつでも1本あればよいが、複数であることが好ましい。摩耗の度合いが進むにつれて、溝の容積は減るが、サイアの数が増える場合には、氷雪路面に有効に作用するサイアの数も増えるため、良好な氷雪性能がサイアの数が増えるときよりもさらに長期にわたって維持される。

【0010】また、本発明の空気入りタイヤは角部を面取りすることにより得られる効果である良好な排水性能も有する。

【0011】複数のブロックの面取りされた角部以外の部分にもサイアを形成することができ、その場合面取りされた角部以外の部分に形成されたサイアの下端（タイヤ半径方向内側の端部）の高さは角部に形成されたサイアの下端の高さと同じであることが好ましい。このようにすると、面取りされた角部に形成されたサイアが、摩耗末期まで有効に働くことができる。

【0012】トレッドはタイヤ周方向に対して傾斜する傾斜溝を有することができ、その場合傾斜溝とタイヤ周方向との角度は45°を越えることが好ましい。このようにすると、雪路面走行時にタイヤ周方向に有効な、換言すれば駆動や制動に有効なエッジ成分が多く得られる。

## 【0013】

【発明の実施の形態】以下、本実施の形態の空気入りタイヤを詳細に説明する。

【0014】図1は、本実施の形態の空気入りタイヤのトレッドの一部を示す。この図に示されるように、本実施の形態の空気入りタイヤのトレッド10には、タイヤ周方向に沿って延びる複数の主溝12が等間隔で形成さ

れている。また、トレッド10にはトレッドの一端から他端に延びるV字の傾斜溝14が形成されており、これらの主溝12と傾斜溝14とによって複数のブロック16が区画されている。

【0015】この空気入りタイヤは、この空気入りタイヤを車両に取り付ける際の回転方向（矢印R方向）が指定された方向性タイヤであり、各ブロック16では、タイヤ赤道面CL側で、且つ主溝12と傾斜溝14とによって形成された角度が鋭角である角部18（図1のブロック16Aでは右下の角部、ブロック16Bでは左下の角部）が先に接地する。

【0016】図2、3に示されるように、この角部18は面取りされており、その表面はその頂点18Aに向けて徐々に低くなっており、ブロック16（図2、3では16B）の上面20の面取りされた部分の縁20Aはゆるいカーブを描いている。また、ブロック16の端面22、24の面取りされた部分の縁（図2では、縁22Aのみ図示）もゆるいカーブを描いている。

【0017】また、ブロック16には、傾斜溝14に沿った端部に平行な複数のサイア26が形成されている。さらに、角部18にも複数のサイア28、30が形成されている。

【0018】サイア26の下端26Aとサイア28の下端28Aとサイア30の下端30Aは同じ高さに位置している。

【0019】図4、5に示すように、このようなブロック16を備えた空気入りタイヤが摩耗し、角部18の一部が路面と接触するようになると、角部18に形成されたサイア28、30のうち頂点18Aから最も遠いサイア28が路面と接触する。このため、エッジ成分（ブロック16の、サイアの両側の部分）の数が増えて、凍った路面上の水膜を切りやすくなる。また、サイア26の深さが摩耗により減少しサイア26の排水効果が低下しても、新たにサイア28の排水効果が得られる。このため、滑りやすい凍った路面を走行する場合の性能の低下が防止される。さらに、路面の面積の増加によっても氷上性能の低下が抑制される。また、雪がサイア26だけでなくサイア28にも入り込むようになるため、雪路面走行時の性能の低下が防止される。

【0020】さらに摩耗が進むと、溝の容積はさらに減少する反面、サイア30の効果が新たに得られる。このため本実施の形態では、良好な氷雪路面走行時の性能が長期にわたり維持される。

【0021】また、本実施の形態の空気入りタイヤは、ブロックの最初に接地する角部18が面取りされることにより得られる良好な排水性能も有している。

【0022】本実施の形態の効果を実証するために、ハイドロプレーニングを発生させる速度と、氷路面又は雪路面走行時のトラクション性能を評価した。サイズが205/55R16の本実施の形態及び比較例のタイヤ

を、幅が6.5J×16のリムに組み付け、内圧が200kPaとなるようにタイヤに空気を充填した。

【0023】ハイドロプレーニングを発生させる速度は、空気を充填したタイヤをテスト車両の四輪に装着し、ドライバーと588Nの荷重を加え、水深10mmの路面を除々に速度を上げながら走行し、車輪が空転状態になったときの速度を測定することにより求めた。結果を図6に示す。

【0024】図6において、Aは、面取りされた角部にサイアが形成された本実施の形態の空気入りタイヤの結果であり、Bは面取りされた角部にサイアが形成されていない比較例1の空気入りタイヤの結果であり、Cは角部が面取りされていない比較例2の空気入りタイヤの結果である。なお、傾斜溝とタイヤ周方向との角度は60°であった。図6から、角部が面取りされた、本実施の形態の空気入りタイヤと比較例1の空気入りタイヤは、角部が面取りされていない比較例2の空気入りタイヤに比べ、ハイドロプレーニングを起こす速度が速く、優れた排水性能を有していることがわかる。

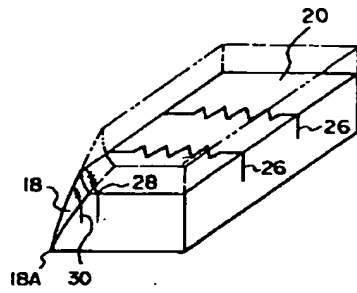
【0025】また、トラクション性能は、前記空気入りタイヤをテスト車輪の四輪に装着し、ドライバーと588Nの荷重を加え、雪で覆われた路面又は凍った路面を走行し、スリップ率0～100%までの発生軸力の積分値を求め、摩耗量に対する積分値の変化を調べた。結果を図7及び図8に示す。図中、○は本実施の形態の空気入りタイヤの結果であり、△は比較例1の空気入りタイヤの結果であり、×は比較例2の空気入りタイヤの結果である。

【0026】図7において、比較例1及び本実施の形態の空気入りタイヤの初期氷上性能よりも比較例2の空気入りタイヤのそれの方が良いのは、比較例2の空気入りタイヤの路面の面積の方が比較例1及び本実施の形態の空気入りタイヤの初期の路面の面積より広いからである。これらの空気入りタイヤの氷上性能はトレッドゴムの劣化により低下するが、比較例1及び本実施の形態の空気入りタイヤの氷上性能の低下率が比較例2の空気入りタイヤのそれよりも小さいのは、比較例1及び本実施の形態の空気入りタイヤでは摩耗により路面の面積が増加するからである。また、本実施の形態の空気入りタイヤでは、面取りされた角部に形成されたサイアが路面と接触するようになると、氷上性能の低下がさらに抑制される。

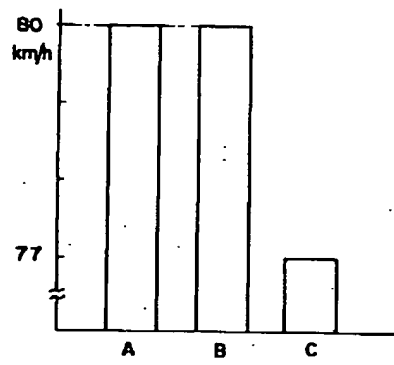
【0027】図8において、比較例2の空気入りタイヤの初期雪上性能よりも比較例1及び本実施の形態の空気入りタイヤのそれの方が良いのは、比較例2の空気入りタイヤの初期の溝の容積よりも比較例1及び本実施の形態の空気入りタイヤのそれの方が大きいからである。これらの空気入りタイヤの雪上性能は摩耗による溝の容積の減少に伴い低下するが、溝の容積の減少率が大きい比較例1の空気入りタイヤの雪上性能の低下率は比較例2



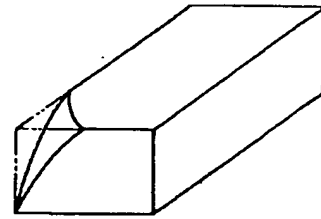
【図4】



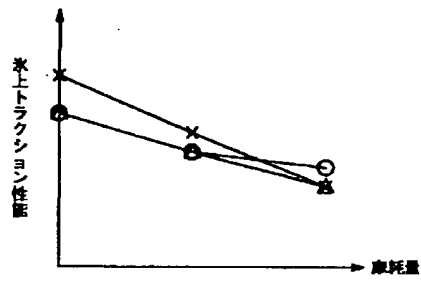
【図6】



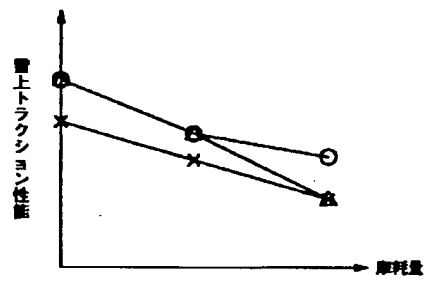
【図9】



【図7】



【図8】



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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

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[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Field of the Invention] This invention relates to a pneumatic tire, and it relates to the pneumatic tire which can carry out rear-spring-supporter maintenance of the engine performance at the time of good snow-and-ice road surface transit at a long period of time while improving the wastewater engine performance in a detail further.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] In order to improve the wastewater engine performance, as shown in drawing 9, the pneumatic tire equipped with the tread which has the block with which the corner was beveled is known. The percentage reduction of the volume of the slot during a block according to wear with such a pneumatic tire is dramatically large compared with it in the case of the pneumatic tire which has the block by which the corner is not beveled.

[0003] By the way, the volume of a slot has influenced the engine performance of a tire on the snow greatly, and it becomes good [ the engine performance on the snow ], so that the volume of a slot is large. Although it is good compared with it of the tire by which the corner is not beveled, since the percentage reduction of the volume of the slot by wear is large as above-mentioned, the engine performance on the snow in early stages of a tire of having the block shown in drawing 9 has a remarkably large rate of on-the-snow performance degradation by wear.

[0004] Since the fixed engine performance is required of a certain amount of thing to do for period maintenance by the tire for snow-and-ice road surfaces, however good the initial engine performance on the snow may be, the pneumatic tire which has a block as shown in drawing 9 cannot be used for it as a tire for snow-and-ice road surfaces.

[0005] This invention is made in consideration of the above-mentioned data, and it aims at offering performance degradation on the snow and the pneumatic tire which can improve the wastewater engine performance while being able to control the Hikami performance degradation further.

[0006]

[Means for Solving the Problem] This invention offers the pneumatic tire with which a part of corner [ at least ] was equipped with the tread which has two or more blocks beveled so that the front face might become low gradually towards the top-most vertices of a corner, and SAIPU was formed in the beveled corner.

[0007] In the pneumatic tire of this invention, when a part of beveled corner comes to contact a road surface by wear, SAIPU formed in the beveled corner comes to contact a road surface. If SAIPU opens according to touch-down, since snow enters into SAIPU and snow can be gripped, the performance degradation on the snow by volume reduction of a slot can be offset.

[0008] Moreover, when a part of beveled corner comes to contact a road surface by wear, the volume of a slot not only decreases by wear, but the area of a tread (field in contact with the road surface of a tire) increases. With regards to the Hikami engine performance of a tire, the area of a tread becomes good [ the Hikami engine performance ], so that the area of a tread is large. Therefore, the Hikami

performance degradation by degradation of tread rubber can be controlled by the increment in the area of a tread. Furthermore, SAIPU which came to contact a road surface by wear cuts the water screen on the frozen road surface, and contacts a block on a road surface. Frictional force, as a result the force which grips a road surface are acquired by this, and the Hikami performance degradation is prevented. [0009] Although there should just be at least one number of SAIPU formed in the beveled corner, it is desirable that it is plurality. In order for the number of SAIPU which acts effective in a snow-and-ice road surface to also increase when the number of SAIPU is plurality although the volume of a slot decreases as the degree of wear progresses, the good snow-and-ice engine performance is further maintained over a long period of time rather than the time of the number of SAIPU being one.

[0010] Moreover, the pneumatic tire of this invention also has the good wastewater engine performance which is the effectiveness acquired by beveling a corner.

[0011] As for the height of the soffit (edge of the tire radial inside) of SAIPU formed in parts other than the corner which could form SAIPU also in parts other than the corner by which two or more blocks were beveled, and was beveled in that case, it is desirable that it is the same as the height of the soffit of SAIPU formed in the corner. If it does in this way, SAIPU formed in the beveled corner can work to validity till the wear last stage.

[0012] It is desirable that a tread can have the dip slot which inclines to a tire hoop direction, and the include angle of a dip slot and a tire hoop direction exceeds 45 degrees in that case. thus, effective in a tire hoop direction at the time of snowy road side transit, when it carries out -- if it puts in another way, many edge components effective in actuation or braking will be obtained.

[0013]

[Embodiment of the Invention] Hereafter, the pneumatic tire of the gestalt of this operation is explained to a detail.

[0014] Drawing 1 shows a part of tread of the pneumatic tire of the gestalt of this operation. As shown in this drawing, two or more major grooves 12 prolonged along a tire hoop direction are formed in the tread 10 of the pneumatic tire of the gestalt of this operation at equal intervals. Moreover, the dip slot 14 of V characters which extends in the other end is formed in the tread 10 from the end of a tread, and two or more blocks 16 are divided by these major grooves 12 and dip slots 14.

[0015] The corner 18 (block 16A of drawing 1 a lower right corner and block 16B lower left corner) whose include angle formed of the major groove 12 and the dip slot 14 it is the directivity tire as which the hand of cut at the time of attaching this pneumatic tire in a car (the direction of arrow-head R) was specified, and is the tire equatorial plane CL side in each block 16, and is an acute angle grounds this pneumatic tire previously.

[0016] As shown in drawing 2 and 3, this corner 18 is beveled, that front face is low gradually towards that top-most-vertices 18A, and marginal 20A of the part by which the top face 20 of block 16 (3 drawing 2 , 16B) was beveled is drawing the loose curve. Moreover, the curve also with the loose edge (only marginal 22A is illustrated in drawing 2 ) of a part where the end faces 22 and 24 of block 16 were beveled is drawn.

[0017] Moreover, two or more SAIPU 26 parallel to the edge along the dip slot 14 is formed in the block 16. Furthermore, two or more SAIPU 28 and 30 is formed also in the corner 18.

[0018] Soffit 26A of SAIPU 26, soffit 28A of SAIPU 28, and soffit 30A of SAIPU 30 are located in the same height.

[0019] If the pneumatic tire equipped with such block 16 is worn out and a part of corner 18 comes to contact a road surface as shown in drawing 4 and 5, furthest SAIPU 28 from top-most-vertices 18A will contact a road surface among SAIPU 28 and 30 formed in the corner 18. For this reason, the number of edge components (part of the both sides of SAIPU of block 16) increases, and becomes easy to cut the water screen on the frozen road surface. Moreover, even if the depth of SAIPU 26 decreases by wear and the wastewater effectiveness of SAIPU 26 falls, the wastewater effectiveness of SAIPU 28 is newly acquired. For this reason, the performance degradation in the case of running the road surface which was slipping-easy and froze is prevented. Furthermore, the Hikami performance degradation is controlled by the increment in the area of a tread. Moreover, in order for snow to enter not only into SAIPU 26 but



into SAIPU 28, the performance degradation at the time of snowy road side transit is prevented.

[0020] If wear furthermore progresses, while the volume of a slot decreases further, the effectiveness of SAIPU 30 will newly be acquired. For this reason, with the gestalt of this operation, rear-spring-supporter maintenance of the engine performance at the time of good snow-and-ice road surface transit is carried out at a long period of time.

[0021] Moreover, the pneumatic tire of the gestalt of this operation also has the good wastewater engine performance obtained by beveling the corner 18 grounded to the beginning of a block.

[0022] In order to prove the effectiveness of the gestalt of this operation, the rate which generates hydroplaning, and an ice road surface or the traction engine performance at the time of snowy road side transit was evaluated. Width of face attached [ size ] the gestalt of 205 / this operation of 55R16, and the tire of the example of a comparison to the rim of 6.5Jx16, and the tire was filled up with air so that internal pressure might serve as 200kPa(s).

[0023] The rate which generates hydroplaning equipped four flowers of a test car with the tire filled up with air, added the driver and the 588-N load, it ran the road surface with a depth of 10mm, gathering a rate to \*\*\*\*, and asked for it by measuring a rate when a wheel changes into a racing condition. A result is shown in drawing 6.

[0024] In drawing 6, A is as a result of the pneumatic tire of the gestalt of this operation with which SAIPU was formed in the beveled corner, B is as a result of the pneumatic tire of the example 1 of a comparison with which SAIPU is not formed in the beveled corner, and C is as a result of the pneumatic tire of the example 2 of a comparison with which the corner is not beveled. In addition, the include angle of a dip slot and a tire hoop direction was 60 degrees. Drawing 6 shows having the wastewater engine performance which whose rate which causes hydroplaning compared with the pneumatic tire of the example 2 of a comparison with which the corner is not beveled was [ the pneumatic tire of the gestalt of this operation and the pneumatic tire of the example 1 of a comparison with which the corner was beveled ] quick, and was excellent.

[0025] Moreover, the traction engine performance equipped four test wheels with said pneumatic tire, added the driver and the 588-N load, ran the road surface covered in snow, or the frozen road surface, calculated the integral value of the generating axial tension to 0 - 100% of slip ratio, and investigated the integral value change to abrasion loss. A result is shown in drawing 7 and drawing 8. O is among drawing as a result of the pneumatic tire of the gestalt of this operation, \*\* is as a result of the pneumatic tire of the example 1 of a comparison, and x is as a result of the pneumatic tire of the example 2 of a comparison.

[0026] In drawing 7, the thing with better it of the pneumatic tire of the example 2 of a comparison than the example 1 of a comparison and the initial Hikami engine performance of the pneumatic tire of the gestalt of this operation is because the area of the tread of the pneumatic tire of the example 2 of a comparison is larger than the area of the tread in early stages of the pneumatic tire of the gestalt of the example 1 of a comparison, and this operation. Although the Hikami engine performance of these pneumatic tires falls by degradation of tread rubber, the thing with the example 1 of a comparison and the rate of the Hikami performance degradation of the pneumatic tire of the gestalt of this operation smaller than that of the pneumatic tire of the example 2 of a comparison is because the area of a tread increases by wear in the pneumatic tire of the gestalt of the example 1 of a comparison, and this operation. Moreover, in the pneumatic tire of the gestalt of this operation, if SAIPU formed in the beveled corner comes to contact a road surface, the Hikami performance degradation will be controlled further.

[0027] In drawing 8, it is because it of the pneumatic tire of the gestalt of the example 1 of a comparison and this operation of the example 1 of a comparison and the thing with better it of the pneumatic tire of the gestalt of this operation is larger than the volume of the slot in early stages of the pneumatic tire of the example 2 of a comparison from the initial engine performance of the pneumatic tire of the example 2 of a comparison on the snow. Although the engine performance of these pneumatic tires on the snow falls with reduction of the volume of the slot by wear, the rate of on-the-snow performance degradation of the pneumatic tire of the example 1 of a comparison with the large

percentage reduction of the volume of a slot is larger than that of the pneumatic tire of the example 2 of a comparison. In the pneumatic tire of the gestalt of this operation, although an early decreasing rate is large, if SAIPU formed in the beveled corner comes to contact a road surface, performance degradation on the snow will be controlled.

[0028] As mentioned above, with the gestalt of this operation, it turns out that the fixed snow-and-ice engine performance is maintained for a long period of time.

[0029] With the gestalt of the above-mentioned implementation, although the flat-surface configuration of a block is a parallelogram, a rhombus and other squares are sufficient as it, and polygons other than 4 square shapes are sufficient as it.

[0030] Furthermore, with the gestalt of the above-mentioned implementation, although the flat-surface configuration of SAIPU 28 and 30 is zigzag, you may be curving also by the shape of a wave or a straight line.

[0031] Moreover, 1 or three or more integers are sufficient as the number of SAIPU formed in a corner 18, and it is suitably determined according to the area of the corner 18 when seeing from a top.

[0032] Furthermore, SAIPU 28 and 30 formed in a corner 18 may be arranged in the direction which is different even if arranged in SAIPU 26 and this direction. moreover, spacing of SAIPU 28 and 30 may be the same as spacing of SAIPU 26 comrades, or may differ.

[0033] Moreover, the height of the soffit of SAIPU and the height of the soffit of other SAIPU which are formed in a corner 18 may not be the same.

[0034]

[Effect of the Invention] Since this invention formed SAIPU in the beveled corner, it can improve the wastewater engine performance while it can control the performance degradation at the time of snow-and-ice road surface transit.

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[Translation done.]

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1. This document has been translated by computer. So the translation may not reflect the original precisely.
2. \*\*\*\* shows the word which can not be translated.
3. In the drawings, any words are not translated.

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CLAIMS

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[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] The pneumatic tire with which a part of corner [ at least ] was equipped with the tread which has two or more blocks beveled so that the front face might become low gradually towards the top-most vertices of a corner, and SAIPU was formed in the beveled corner.

[Claim 2] The pneumatic tire according to claim 1 with which two or more SAIPU was formed in said beveled corner.

[Claim 3] The height of the soffit of SAIPU which SAIPU was formed in parts other than said beveled corner of a block of said plurality, and was formed in parts other than said beveled corner is the same pneumatic tire according to claim 1 or 2 as the height of the soffit of SAIPU formed in said corner.

[Claim 4] It is a pneumatic tire given in any 1 term of claims 1-3 to which said tread has the dip slot which inclines to a tire hoop direction, and the include angle of said dip slot and tire hoop direction exceeds 45 degrees.

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[Translation done.]